



BILL HORN
SUPERVISOR, FIFTH DISTRICT
SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

April 1, 2008

Chairman Richard Wright
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

**RE: Carlsbad Desalination Project - Flow, Entrainment and Impingement
Minimization Plan - #R9-2006-0065, NPDES No. CA 0109223 – April 9th
Hearing, Agenda Item #7**

Dear Chairman Wright:

I am writing to urge you to support the Carlsbad Desalination Project at your April 9, 2008 meeting. A large portion of the district I have been elected to represent will benefit directly from the construction of the desalination facility.

San Diego County imports more than 85% of its water from the Colorado River and State Water Project. The County's imported water supplies are constantly threatened by environmental and legal constraints. Record-setting drought conditions in Southern California and along the Colorado River coupled with the pending court-ordered shutdown of the State Water Project pumps could reduce San Diego County's imported water supply by 30%.

The San Diego County Water Authority's 2005 Urban Water Management Plan is designed to protect the County against drought conditions and disruptions to the region's imported water supply, thereby identifying a need for 56,000 acre-feet-per-year of desalinated seawater by 2011. The Carlsbad Desalination Project will provide the region with 50 million gallons per day (56,000 acre-feet-per-year) of high-quality, environmentally-sensitive, drinking water.

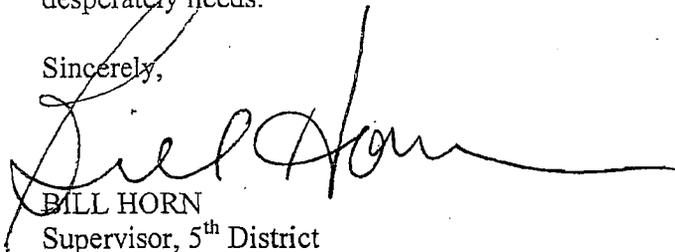
The San Diego County Water Authority has approved a resolution in support of the Carlsbad Desalination Project, and has identified the desalination plant as a critical component of the region's water diversification strategy. Consequently, nine San Diego County public water agencies – Carlsbad Municipal Water District, Valley Center Municipal Water District, Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District, Sweetwater Authority, Rainbow Municipal Water District, Vallecitos Water District, the Santa Fe Irrigation District, Olivenhain Municipal Water District and the Oceanside Municipal

Water District - have entered, or are negotiating, long-term purchase agreements to receive desalinated water from the Carlsbad desalination plant.

This broad interest from the public water agencies is clear evidence that every drop of drinking water that this project can produce is essential to San Diego County's economic stability and public health.

Your board already approved this project in 2006 and there is no reason for further regulatory delay. I urge you to accept the project's Flow, Entrainment and Impingement Minimization Plan and move this project closer to providing San Diego with the water it desperately needs.

Sincerely,



BILL HORN
Supervisor, 5th District
County of San Diego

BH:dms

cc:

David King, Vice Chairman
Susan Ritschel, Board Member
Eric Anderson, Board Member
Wayne Rayfield, Board Member
Elizabeth Pearson-Schneider, Board Member
Kris Weber, Board Member
John Robertus, Executive Director
Eric Becker
Michael McCann
John Odermatt